

**Andrew Jackson to William Hayden, Jr., March 30, 1824,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

**TO WILLIAM HAYDEN, JR.<sup>1</sup>**

1 Copy.

Washington, March 30, 1824.

*Sir*, your note of Yesterday with the two newspapers are recd, to which I reply

I never pretend to recollect after they are made remarks offered by me in public debate; and particularly can I not recollect those inquired of by you, as I had determined to take no part in the discussion; a severe pain in my breast at the time I thought forbad me. Contrary to this determination indeed, I was drawn out by a direct appeal made to me by Mr Holmes of main; my reply therefore was upon the spur of the occasion and my remarks such as my mind sugested at the moment. Other Gentlemen can better say whether the report is correctly made than I can, as I pay no attention to such things. There is one thing I can assure you that I should never ascribe unworthy motives to you or any one. These are things which should be left alone to Him who can, and has a right to Judge of the causes that control human actions.

Having held no communication with any one on this subject, I should not, could I recollect, interfere in the disputes of Public Editors. I was applied to the other day by Mr Seaton<sup>2</sup> on this subject. The above was substantially my answer. I return the papers as requested and am with due respect

<sup>2</sup> William W. Seaton, editor of the *National Intelligencer*.

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